

CHISAGO COUNTY PARK BOARD
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, September 19, 2019

At 3:00 pm, Thursday, September 19, 2019, Chairman Storm called the meeting of the Chisago County Park Board of Directors with the following members present: Dan Kaiser, Jolene Wille, Jill Sicheneder and Frank Storm. Gregg Carlson (excused). Also present: Joe Tart, Park Director; Diane Sander; Support Specialist, County Commissioners Mike Robinson, Kurt Schneider, Environmental Services Director.

Meeting Summary:

- Unanimously the Board approved agenda.
- Unanimously the Board approved July 18, 2019 meeting minutes.
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Xxxxxx offered a motion to approve the meeting agenda for September 19th Board of Directors meeting. Second by xxxxx and **carried unanimously**.

Xxxxxxx offered a motion to approve the meeting minutes for July 18, 2019 Board of Directors meeting. Second by xxxxxx and **carried unanimously**.

Special Use Permit

Joe – had a list. Any thing the board would like or not like. Had an situation that triggered the Special Use Permit could look like. Use moving forward. If it's not on the list, Joe will review and accept it. Added some items to the list. Joe gets voice mails from people who helped generate the list. Any use you need a permit. If it is just a family no permit needed. This would be in addition to shelter reservations to use the park. This helps staff narrow things down on how people are using the park. Other counties are using it.

Recommend approval. By Dan second by Jill to approve the Special Use Permit.

Adopt-a-Trail Flyer

Joe – got prices for concert, benches, signs, and extra, minus the labor. Will use the City of Lindstrom's as base design. Ordered everything materials, hardware, concert, special wire mess is \$1200 – 1300 (ask Joe on \$). Signs are removal for both sides. Pretty universal. 5 year commitment for both sponsorship and volunteer. Chris – Rotary from xxxx want the bench to be a Rotary bench like in town. Additional work along trail, approved by Board. \$500 work done would go towards additional commitment. Might apply for grant with other Rotary clubs and extend funds, asking to be flexibility with it. Kurt – out with Cassey on last bridge, could be native planting and could be used as education. It's a brand new idea for the Park Board, do you think it needs to come to the County Board. Joe, locations are defined for kiso locations. Bench or bike repair station is the bronze level. Some benches are tucked in the woods and hard to see. Greene – could a sponsor a picnic table instead of bench. Foundation is handling the funds and donations. County Board gives a blessing and foundation with agreement (one page) is an exiting opportunity to get involved in the community with the park systems. We don't want our parks and trails used as a commercial advertising gimmick. Silver location, will have a "you are here" location. Will create signs for locations with GIS staff and constructed during winter. By consensus to proceed with bringing it to County Board and moving forward with getting requests completed and set out to businesses.

LARA Request

On going, still waiting on some quotes from Joe, one of the LARA Directors. For dugout – steel fence with steel roof, Ag. Lime. Also received a quote from a building. Similar to Middle School Storage Building. Also wanted a fifth ballfield. Greene – asking for a t-ball field. Kurt – why the sudden interest? Joe, from some of the school districts go removed from Lakeside and removed ballfield from a tennis field. Kurt – this is an interesting questions from a community organization and getting pushed from schools to county parks. Different ways to facilitate it, how do you allow it and will there be other community organizations asking for the same things at different park or similar questions and situations. Dan, other buildings out there. We discussed at previous meetings for mowing that could be done. Jolene and we had discussed building with multi use for others too. Joe – I think building is for LaCross. Chris, didn't we turn this down last year. Concensus, by everyone that we turned it down. Frank, what I would like to see is a drawing on the map on location and plan. Would like to see presentation and package it. Lossing use of fields in places and are coming here. Frank, we need more. On the adult end there are less and less. On t-ball good turn out but going up less kids and people using it. If the Highschool and at Forest Lake and North Branch (I think). High Schools are booked need somewhere to go. Greene – there is an organization to build it. Looking for a town ball, baseball field. Mike, if it is on park land, and there is no drinking on park land. Baseball town team was different than going to a tball game. ****Frank – by concnesus get a site plan and more information.

Hunting Application

Created a new application form. No fee for this year using public land at Sunrise North Reserve Land. Using more a permit, shotgun only. Will have a deadline to do a lottery who gets drawn. Getting a lot of phone calls on hunting. Could limit the archery and muzzle loader season on land. Frank, have copies sent to Sherriff's Department so they know who is out there. *****No permit stands!***** By concensuses approved Hunting Application.

Staff Report

Erosion Control

Kost Dam – hiking trail has been closed since the spring. Cassey from SWCD provided recommendations. Joe put some logs, from down trees in woods, and staked the dirt would hit the log and stop to reduce the erosion. Also ordered seed mix to plant during less trail use. Rerouted the trail and some of the other plants should come up. Erosion control blankets are biodegradable. Due to traffic from kids, could either have more patrols or stop it. Safety is an issue. We have it posted to trail closed for natural resources. Hunting cameras have been stolen. Joe it has been classified as a trail. Frank, posted so County doesn't have any liability.

SIRT

Second bridge to the State Park. The second bridge is having erosion problems. Staff put some stakes in to help monitor the location. Cassey trap rock to extend it so the help direct water in the right direction. Most of water is coming off trail. Will put some silt fence to help. Continue to monitor and will let the Board know. Kurt – putting in plug of SWCD and knowledge of staff to trouble shoot and fix it.

Grant Applications

Applied for two grants. One is SPRT – Segment G is a construction grant. Second grant is SIRT – Segment B & D, planning grant.

SIRT – Interstate Park

Joe was able to gain right of entry from two landowners to the trail. Meeting this Friday, with WSB. List of timeline on Joe's notes. The trail has moved around to help safe guard some natural resources. Those things are hard to deal. Completed field survey, wetland delineation, tree survey, rare plant survey, archeological investigation and soil borings.

Beach Monitoring Update

Fish Lake

Has been closed since Mid August. Could be surface runoff, geese, and warm water. Still have signs up and tests have been elevated. Test results are going down gradually. Trouble with well. Chris – what about the rangers. They work through Labor Day and were still there during the beach closed with boats going in and out, shelter reservations. Kurt – testing as late of possible to see what other are doing. Mike – where are sending the samples to? Joe – MN Valley and switched to in Circle Pines, Inter Pro. Have been referring to link to MN Health website and concerns coming from residence on other side of lake. Greene – use sewage lab. Will take a look at it.

Checkerboard

Checkerboard have been testing well.

Capital Expense

Joe is doing an assessment of each park. Developing a list of what is getting run down and in need of repairs. Joe will have list with prices and start repairs. Looking for priorities from Joe and Board to use the money in the budget. To help build the need for funding.

Dam Inspection

Possible issues, Dave and Joe went out there and put stakes out there. Top six inches were clay and packed sand. I don't think it is an issue. Contacted State Dam Inspector, and preferred to wait until 2021 for next inspection. Looking at photos and comparing. No water bubbling up or anything.

Staffing

Working with STS crew and so beneficial to the Parks Department. Kendal did great and did weed whipping. We got them for six months out of the year. Need to do a lot of painting on the shelters. Kurt – need to keep them busy. Dan, we don't call them prisoners, they are inmates or cliential. Dave has been doing great, only full time crew. Had some other part time employees. Fish Lake had someone spin out. Sherriff had them rake the upper parking lot.

Reservations

Fish Lake –

Moving forward, some of these capital items to think of getting more items in the parks to up the capital investments for more desirable. Need power in the other power.

Auction Items

Sent off to Administration to be placed on the auction. Older items

Land Acquisition near Checkerboard

Joe was approached by a month ago near Checkerboard Park. They are motivated to sell 40 acres. Looking at some grant options and contacts. Counters Organations, can purchase land. There is a meeting on October 22 and fill out application by first week to get a feel as to what they. There is an

easement through Checkerboard to the property. 32 acres out of the 40 is wetland. Pretty detailed application to apply for it or what are the wishes of the Board. Usable land near neighbors. Not worth double the assess value. Kurt – we would need to budget it in and spread it out purchase with organizations. Encroachments of trail, regional standing, and xxxx See if the Parks and Trails could get a number with the landowner.

By concensus – move forward with application.*****

Parks & Trail Maintenance

Doing a lot of mowing, tree trimming, and not getting to actual projects. Gentleman got caught putting up graffiti is going through courts for restitution. Storms with heavy winds, trails have been removing down trees and branches. Rent chipper and clearing them out on both trails.

Kost Dam – freshened up the playground and other maintance issue. Mud jacking is a band-aid fix. Mud Jacker – in Center City.

Fish Lake Park, a lot of time replacing boards and painting. Had diver to connect raft back to weight.

Beaver damage to hiking trail. Had trees going into ball field.

Checkerboard – backfill retaining wall on beach.

Dennis Frandsen – Disc Course – is a more winter course and made it 18 hole it would become more of a designation. Opportunities for improvement. Removed dock board that were soft.

Ki-Chi-Saga – Have a cross county meet coming up. Filling up cracks in shelters. Adding board on backside of playground to help surfacing stay in. Have Japanese Beetle and grubs problem and treated it.

Adjourn

Dan and Jolene Passed.